



## Synchronous impedance plots record machine performance

Bently Nevada has encouraged customers for several years to document machinery performance by utilizing polar and Bode' plots. This has been taught in our seminars and has been asserted in our publications. We have provided the required transducers, the readout devices, and diagnostic instruments to steer our customers in the proper direction in spite of heavy overemphasis on "spectrum analysis" by our competitors.

These synchronous graphs of machinery performance provide extremely vital information and historical documentation. They are documents of dynamic motions, however. And because dynamic motion is the result of dynamic force divided by dynamic impedance, there is an automatic ambiguity of motion expression.

For example, on a machine where 4 mils peak-to-peak is the alert level, a 5 mil peak-to-peak motion could be either an excessive input force or insufficient impedance (such as excessive bearing clearance). In fact, it could be the result of both conditions occurring simultaneously.

In the Calibration Weight Balancing process, a weight is added of a

known amount at a known radius, angle, and lateral position. The effect of the weight is then observed as a motion vector at one speed by all vibration transducers on the machine. The result of this test has historically been called the "influence coefficient." Actually, it is the impedance of the rotor system *at that particular speed with the test imbalance applied*.

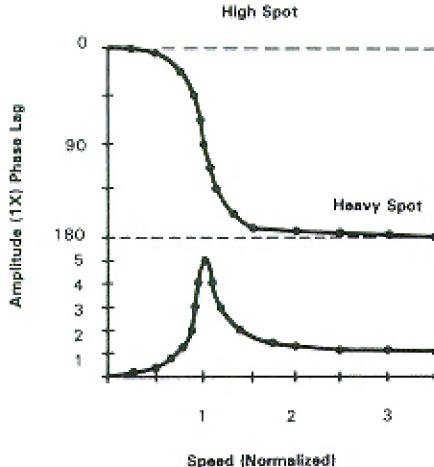
Synchronous Speed Impedance Plots are simply the same impedance as noted above except that the data is taken for the *entire speed range*. These impedance plots may be done as (1) amplitude and phase or (2) as direct and quadrature components. I prefer the latter.

It is important to note that while these Synchronous Impedance Plots provide important information and historical documentation, they do not serve as indicators of rotor stability. Another test, called Nonsynchronous Impedance by Perturbation, is required for stability indicators.

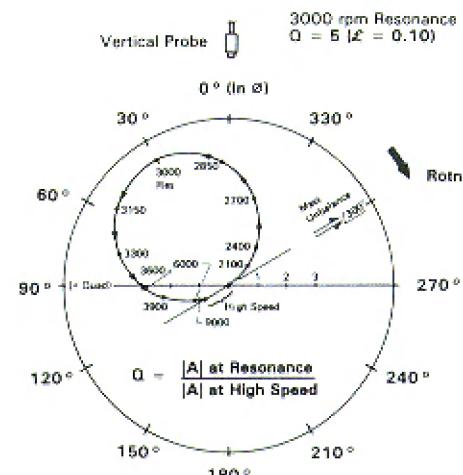
The ADRE® system is readily adapted to run Synchronous Impedance Plots and the Smart Monitor® with a host processor is also capable of producing this data.

By Don Bently

### Bode' Plot



### Polar Plot



## CONTENTS

### COVER STORY..... 1

The Smart Monitor® makes it possible to monitor critical rotating machinery and perform diagnostic data acquisition and data reduction using one system.



**PHOTO:** Project engineers Dean Drake (left) and John Cratty (right) review the Smart Monitor's performance with administrative assistant Cheryl Holt.

### ENGINEERING TEAM..... 5

An intermix of backgrounds and ideas made the Smart Monitor® engineering team successful.

### FIELD TRIALS..... 5

The results of Smart Monitor® field trials.

### SMART MONITOR® LINKED TO CENTRAL COMPUTER..... 6

The Smart Monitor® will be linked to a large, central computer system.

### SERVICE LOCALLY AVAILABLE..... 6

Technical assistance on the Smart Monitor®.

### PAPER AT LONDON CONFERENCE..... 6

Bently Nevada will present a paper on the integration of machine monitoring and diagnostic data acquisition and reduction.

### MACHINERY MESSAGES..... 7

Cure the machine of pneumonia and it dies of diphtheria.

### AT YOUR SERVICE..... 8

Promotions and new faces.

### AROUND THE WORLD..... 8

Seminars and meetings conducted in China.



### OUTER ORBIT..... 9

A low-cost velocity pickup has been developed for use with Bently Nevada's CPD-1 Data Logger.

### PRODUCT LITERATURE..... 9

## ORBIT

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